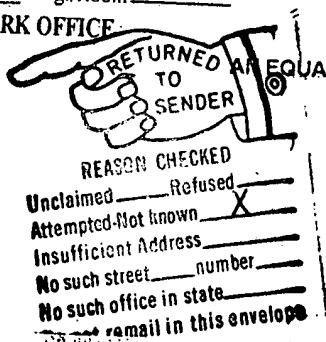


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Date: 7/28/03

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To: Applicant of Serial Number 09778246

We currently project that it will be more than 15 months before this application will receive a first office action. This is because the application is classified in a technology that has experienced a large filing rate growth over the last few years. The Office is addressing the growth by adjusting examination resources accordingly. You may wish to consult the MPEP (708.02) to see if filing a petition to make special is appropriate.

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